

CALCRAFT. THE HANGMAN.

REMINISCENCES OF THE QUIET LITTLE

For Forty-six Years the Public Executioner of England—Thackeray's Kide With him on a Stage Coach—His Fondness for Flowers.
LONDON, Dec. 15.—The famous executioner

Many has been written concerning the "Monieur de Paris" of London, embracing many anecdotes of the famous hangman and a romance touching the cause of his becoming an executioner. About the year 1864 a member of *THE SUN* staff, then a reporter for the *London Daily Telegraph*, was sent to interview Calcraft regarding the hanging of a convict. He found the hangman, who was a shoemaker by trade, in his pleasant three-story brick house in Islington. The front house and at its rear were yards filled with flowers. The latter were crowded with rose bushes, and the hangman had great pride in them. In the course of the visit he spoke of his gardens, and said that any man who loved flowers could not have a very bad heart. He cultivated

had not been Calcraft, the hangman, he would once have taken a prize on his display of tulpas at a big fair. There was an iron fence in front of the house, and a small garden for a scavenger for the off-days that Calcraft held, that it was almost impossible to rent the houses that he had built. The garden was a small one, but the gate opening into his yard when they had to go through the quick street in which he lived.

Calcraft was a little man, with round features, and a full iron-gray beard. He wore an ordinary business suit, and a high-crowned hat. He was a very old man. The house was handsomely furnished. On a table was a large Bible, which, it was said, the hangman had bought for himself, and which bore evidence of having been much used.

Calcraft's wife was at that time a matronly woman, with a face that was almost entirely devoted, in the course of the interview Calcraft said that hanging, if attended to by one who had the proper knowledge, was not a very difficult death. He used small ropes for men of nervous temperament and thicker ropes for those of opposite temperament. He had a large stock of ropes of different size and showed how the knot should be adjusted.

From Calcraft's remarks made a strong effort to enable his children to outlive the stigma

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\$10,000 for an Eye.

Elizabeth McCunley, a young girl, sued Lewis F. Moore of 160 Greene avenue, Brooklyn, in the Brooklyn Supreme Court today for \$10,000 damages for the loss of the sight of one of her eyes, caused by a steel pin which struck her from a blow by the defendant's son. The boy was charged with assault upon the plaintiff's father and the girl was watching him over the fence. Her mother said she would sue him too. The jury gave the plaintiff \$10,000.

Robbing the Hand that Fed Him.

A man who told a pitiful story of want begged bread at the residence of Mrs. Louis Hays, at 1290 Pacific street, Brooklyn, last night, when she handed him a tin of food, was robbing her. He had been captured by police for a slandering remark from his misery. Her husband said he would sue him.

John McEvoy's Death.
John McEvoy, the Paterson boy whose head was cleaved off in two by a buzz saw, a week ago, and who, to the astonishment of the physicians, seemed to survive the operation, died last night at the New York hospital. He was covered with a film of coagula, which he followed by convulsions that continued until his death.

Suicide from a Steamer.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—P. T. Smith, while on his way to Napa Asylum, in care of Deputy Sheriff Porter of Alameda County, jumped from the steamer *Albatross* off the coast of San Francisco, Sunday last, and is said to belong to a good family in New York.

Patt's Suicide.
ST. LOUIS, Dec. 15.—In Carolyn Patt's suit against the Post Office, testimony was taken today. The testimony of Carolyn Patt, who is the mother of the person in the case, was taken. She testified that she had no knowledge of the alleged illegality of the Post Office in that city.

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